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Army vol. 5.
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S C H E M E

For ESTABLISHING

A Constitutional MILITIA.

WITH A

POSTSCRIPT,

RELATING TO

The LANDED and MONEYED
INTEREST.

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SCHEMATA

THE ESTABLISHING

A Constitutional Bill

WITH

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following Scheme for a Militia was wrote by a Gentleman of Worth and Distinction, and printed at ETON, soon after the late Rebellion: A Republication, with some Alterations, is judged not improper at this Season, when the Expediency of a National Militia is universally acknowledged, and the Method of Establishment agreeable to the Constitution of the Kingdom, become not only the general Subject of Conversation, but of the greatest National Concern: How far the Plan here laid down may be judged expedient, or this Gentleman's Thoughts afford a useful Hint on this Occasion, it is not

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presumed to determine: Most certain, it is the Duty of every Individual to lay before the Publick whatever bears a Tendency to the Publick Good, and the most distant Prospect of Service to our King and Country, should overballance every other Consideration: With this View only, this Tract appears again in publick, and is submitted.

The Reader will make Allowance for some Particulars peculiar to the Time of the first Publication, as no Alteration is made therein.

F. P.

A
S C H E M E

For ESTABLISHING
A Constitutional MILITIA, &c.

E *NGLAND* having now a happy Prospect of enjoying the Blessings of Peace, the Consideration naturally arises, how we may best secure to ourselves the Continuance of those Blessings: and late Experience having shewed us how suddenly we may be deprived of them, either by Rebellion or Invasion, every Friend to his Country must agree, that a Military Force is necessary, to discourage any such future Attempts to interrupt our Happiness.

But Gentlemen do not agree in Opinion, what Number of Troops are necessary, or whether they ought to be Regulars, Militia, or both.

As

As to Regular Troops; In the Time of Peace, during the Reigns of King *William*, and Queen *Ann*, 7,000 Men were thought to be a sufficient Guard.

Nor was it in those Reigns believed, an Invasion could be made on these Kingdoms, without such previous Preparations, for some Months, as must give us Time to raise, upon the Occasion, sufficient Forces by Sea and Land: The Prince of *Orange* having had near 600 Sail of Ships to transport 13,500 Men, and 3,500 Horses.

But by the small Knowledge we had in *February* 1743-4, of the designed Embarkation at *Dunkirk*, it is to be feared an Invasion may be conducted with 15, or 20,000 Men, without giving us the Alarm, even by an Embargo for Transports.

I will mention one other Circumstance which ought to be considered, viz.

That upon any designed Invasion, supposing we have 17, or 18,000 Land Forces
in

in *England*, scarce 5000 of them can be brought together in time, to dispute the Enemies landing, from an Uncertainty for some time, what Part of our Coasts may be most in Danger, and from quartering our Troops in distant Parts of the Nation, for their better Accomodation, and that no one Part may be particularly oppressed.

These Circumstances prove that this Number of Regular Troops is not sufficient to secure us from Rebellion, or Invasion.

The next Consideration is, how far we may trust to a Militia for our Security.

I confess, that we were formerly well defended by a Militia only, but in those Times, the Troops of our neighbouring Nations were not better disciplin'd; and our civil Wars, of which this Nation long felt the Miseries, obliged every Man, in his own Defence, to bear Arms, and to practise the use of them: afterwards a happy Spirit of Trade succeeded; and as War and Trade are inconsistent one with the

the other, it is to be wished, that such a Martial Spirit may never revive, as the Necessity of the Times then required.

And that a considerable Body of Regular Troops may be kept in Pay.

But since so great a Number as the Nation may be supposed willing, or able to maintain, may not be a sufficient Guard, considering the Time requisite for drawing together 5000 of them, from different Parts of the Kingdom, upon an Emergency; And considering the Temper of the *Scotch*, in the Years 1715, and 1745, and the Opportunity *France* has of invading us, without giving us any Warning by their Preparations, (a Danger of which the Nation was not sensible from the Revolution 'till *February* 1743-4.)

I would propose a farther Security, by the Establishment of a Militia of 18,000 Men, in such a Manner, as to be ready, upon any Occasion, in their several Counties, to preserve the Peace of their respective Counties, or to join the Regular Troops,
or

or the Militia of other Counties, as the Occasion may require.

Let it be here observed, that by the present Method of raising the Militia, it is not possible to raise any considerable Force, so speedily as by the Plan now proposed. In the Rebellion 1715, the Militia of one County could not be brought together in less than nine Months. Probably this was the Case in other Counties, and must always happen, from some Adjustments necessary first to be determin'd, what Proportion Land-Owners are to contribute towards the Militia, and arise no less also from the Division of Estates, and other Incidents.

I must here also beg it to be remembred, that undisciplin'd Troops, mixed with Regulars, have in many Instances, behaved as well as Regulars, and that the County Regiments raised during the late Rebellion, probably saved the Nation, by preserving the Peace of the Counties in which they were raised, and by being placed in Garrisons, where Regular Troops must other-

wise have done Duty, and which would have been wanted in the Field.

Upon this it may be objected, that an established Militia, as here proposed, is unnecessary, because we may, upon any Emergency, have recourse to the same Expedient of raising County Regiments.

But can we always depend upon the same publick Spirit, which at that Time appear'd in several Counties? or if we could, even that method had probably been too late, if the Rebels had marched into *England*, immediately after the Battle of *Preston-Pans*.

Seeing then that an Army of 17, or 18,000 Men is not a sufficient Guard, and that we cannot depend upon the last Expedient of raising County Regiments, and that a Militia, in the present Method, cannot be brought into the Field in Time, upon sudden Emergencies.

It is proposed, that 18,000 able bodied Men, do voluntarily enlist themselves for the
Service

Service of their King and Country, and be paid Forty Five Shillings *per Ann.* each; and that the Number, or Proportion, in the several Counties be as follows, and under the following Regulations. *viz.*

	<i>Volunteers</i>
Bedfordsh. _____	300
Berksh. _____	400
Bucks _____	500
Cambridgesh. and Isle of Ely —	300
Cheshire _____	300
Cornwall _____	300
Cumberland _____	200
Derbysh. _____	300
Devonsh. _____	800
Dorsetsh. _____	300
Durham _____	200
Essex _____	900
Glocestersh. _____	500
Hampsh. _____	600
Herefordsh. _____	200
Hertfordsh. _____	400
Huntingdonsh. _____	200
Kent _____	800
Lancash. _____	200
Leicestersh. _____	400
B 2	Lincolnsh.

	<i>Volunteers</i>
Lincolnsh.	700
Middlesex (London having a Militia)	400
Monmouthsh.	200
Norfolk	800
Northamptonsh.	500
Northumberland	200
Nottinghamsh.	300
Oxfordsh.	400
Rutlandsh.	200
Shropsh.	300
Somerfetsh.	700
Staffordsh.	300
Suffolk	700
Surrey	700
Sussex	600
Warwicksh.	400
Worcestersh.	300
Wiltsh.	500
Westmoreland	200
Yorksh. East Riding	300
West Riding	300
North Riding	300
Wales	600

Total 18,000

i. That

1. That the Lord Lieutenant of each County do appoint Deputy Lieutenants, in proportion to the Extent of the County, and the number of Volunteers therein inlisted.

2. The deputy Lieutenants in each County, three of them being a Quorum, shall meet to inlist Volunteers, who shall be approved of by them.

3. The Volunteers shall produce Certificates to the Deputy Lieutenants, under the Hands of the Church-Wardens, and other Officers of their respective Parishes, that they are not distemper'd in Body, or Limbs, so as to be unfit for Service, and that they are not above 40 Years of Age.

4. That a General Muster of these Volunteers shall be made twice in every Year, viz. upon the Thursday after *Michaelmas*, and *Lady-Day*, or upon *Michaelmas*, and *Lady-Day*, when those Days happen upon a Thursday, at their respective County Town, or other Place best suited to a general Meeting in each County, at the Discretion of the
Lord

Lord Lieutenant, or Majority of the Deputy Lieutenants.

5. The Lord Lieutenant shall appoint one, or more Clerks of the Musters, according to the Extent of the County, who shall constantly attend the same, and shall keep a fair Register of the Name, and Place of Abode of each Volunteer, and shall give a Ticket for his half Years Pension to each Man who appears at the said Musters.

6. Every Absenter shall forfeit his half Years Pension, unless a Certificate, under the Hands of the Minister, and Church-Wardens of his Parish, that he is not able to travel so far, be produced to the commanding Officer at the Muster, and approved of by him, and if approved of by him, the Clerk shall send a Ticket to such Absenter for his half Years Pension.

7. Every Absenter, without Excuse so approved of, shall upon his second Neglect of appearing at the Musters, be dismiss'd the Service, and another Man shall be enlisted in his Place.

8. The

8. The Clerks shall, within a Week after every half yearly Muster, send a fair Copy of his List of the Volunteers who appeared, and of those who were excused on account of Sickness, &c. and of the Absenters who forfeited their Pension, to the Secretary at War, to be by him transmitted to the Lords of the Treasury: and also another fair Copy to the Lord Lieutenant of the County.

9. The Deputy Lieutenants, or any three of them, shall meet at least once in every Year, at the Time of mustering, and in the same Town, or Place, to hear Complaints, and to dismiss any of the Men from the Service, on account of Age, Sick-ness, or ill Behaviour, and to enlist others in the Place of any so dismissed.

10. Every Volunteer, at the Time he shall be enlisted, and registered by the Clerk, shall take the Oaths to the King, and the Articles of War against Mutiny and De-fection shall be read unto him.

11. The

11. The Volunteers shall not be taken out of *Great Britain* upon any Service whatever.

12. The Lord Lieutenants shall upon any Rebellion or Invasion, and upon receiving Orders from the King for that Purpose, issue Orders and Notices to the Officers, and to each Volunteer in their respective Parishes, to march to such Place, as the Lord Lieutenant, or Deputies, shall appoint for the Rendezvous, and within so many Days as he shall order.

13. If there be no Lord Lieutenant in any County, the Deputy Lieutenants in that County, or any three of them, shall, upon receiving such Orders from his Majesty, issue the like Orders and Notices.

14. The Volunteers shall, from the Time they shall receive such Orders and Notices from the Lord Lieutenant, or the Deputy Lieutenants, be subject to military Discipline; and shall be liable to Punishment as Deserters, if they do not march to the Place of Rendezvous, according to such
Orders

Orders and Notices, unless hindered by Sickness, or some unavoidable Accident.

15. From the next Quarter-Day, *viz.* *Christmas, Lady-Day, Midsummer, or Michaelmas*, which shall first happen after Orders to march to the Place of Rendezvous, their Pension of 45 *s. per Ann.* shall cease; and they shall receive the same Pay with other marching Regiments of Foot, while they are upon Duty; and after they are dismissed to their respective Places of Abode, 'till the next of the said Quarter-Days, which shall first happen, and then their Pay shall cease; and they shall receive their former Pension of 45 *s. per Ann.*

16. If any Volunteer be wounded in the Service, so as to be disabled, he shall receive 40 *s. per Ann.* during his Life, upon producing an Order for that Purpose to the Clerk of the Musters, under the Hands of three Deputy Lieutenants, and another Volunteer shall be inlisted in his Place.

17. If any Volunteer be killed in the Service, the Widow of such Volunteer shall receive, during her Life, 40*s. per Ann.* upon producing an Order for that Purpose to the Clerk of the Musters, under the Hands of three Deputy Lieutenants, before whom she has proved her Marriage; and the Clerk shall, half yearly, upon Certificate under the Hands of the Minister and Church-wardens of the Parish, where such disabled Volunteer, or such Widow resides, that he or she was living at the Expiration of the last half year, give a Ticket for the Payment of his or her said Pension, in like Manner as he gives Tickets to the Volunteers.

18. The Volunteers in each County (unless otherways ordered by his Majesty) shall be a Regiment, and each hundred of them shall be a Company.

19. The Lord Lieutenants shall appoint Gentlemen of their respective Counties, to be the Colonel, and Major of the said Regiments

giments, and Captains of the Companies in the same.

20. But whereas the Volunteers in *Wales* do amount to a small Number in each County, that Deputy Lieutenants, and a Clerk of the Muster only, be appointed for each County, but that the Colonel, and other Officers be appointed for the whole Principality at the Discretion, and by the joint Consent and Agreement of the several Lord Lieutenants, unless otherwise ordered by Royal Authority.

21. The Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, and Captains, shall, one of them, in their Turn, constantly attend at the mustering of the Volunteers half yearly.

22. The Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, and Captains, shall not have any Pay, or Rank, except, that during the Time of actual Service, they shall have the same Pay and Rank which other Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, and Captains of marching Regiments of Foot have,

23. The King do appoint all the Lieutenants, Ensigns, and other inferior Officers, of all the said Regiments, and order an Uniform of Cloaths, and Arms for the Volunteers, whenever Occasion calls them out into actual Service; and the said Officers, so appointed by his Majesty, shall have the usual Pay and Rank of such Officers, during the Time they are in actual Service only, except that in case they had Pay, or half Pay, or Rank in any of the marching Regiments, or in his Majesty's Guards, they shall have half Pay and Rank, according to their Commissions in the Volunteers, after they are dismissed from their Service in the Volunteers.

24. The Volunteers, disabled Volunteers, and Widows of Volunteers killed in the Service, shall half yearly deliver their Tickets which they shall receive from the Clerk of the Muster, for their Pensions, to the Collectors of the Land Tax in their respective Parishes, who shall, without Delay,

Delay, Fee, or Reward, on any Pretence whatsoever, pay them the same, and shall deliver the Tickets to the Receiver General of the Land-Tax, as so much Money, who, in passing his Accounts, shall be allowed the same.

25. The Clerk of the Muster in each County shall be paid half yearly, without Delay, Fee, or Reward, by the Receiver-General of the Land-Tax (who shall be allowed the same when he passes his Accounts) One Shilling for each Volunteer, and shall not have any other Allowance, or receive any other Fee or Reward, upon any Pretence whatsoever, under the Penalty of forfeiting 20*l.* Part of which shall be given to the Informer, and the remainder to some charitable Use, at the Discretion of three or more of the Deputy Lieutenants.

The whole annual Expence of this very useful Body of Men, ready for Service upon every short Notice, will be

18,000

£.

18,000 Volunteers, at 45 s.	}	40,500
<i>per Ann. each,</i> —		

To the several Clerks of	}	900
the Musters 1 s. <i>per Ann.</i> for		
each Volunteer, —		
		41,400

Forty one thousand, five hundred Pounds;
 Unless a Gratuity be thought expedient to
 the Deputy Lieutenants, Colonels, or other
 Officers that attend the half yearly Meeting
 on mustering the Volunteers; the Expence
 of which Meeting may be defrayed by the
 Clerk of the Muster, and being signed by
 the Deputies, and Officers present, be re-
 paid by the Receiver-General of the Coun-
 ty, and allowed on passing his Account.

In the foregoing Disposition of Volun-
 teers, to be raised in the several Counties,
 the Proportion of Payment to the Land-
 Tax

Tax has been nearly followed: To which Method, I apprehend, there can be no Objection, on Account of the known Inequality of that Tax, since those Counties which pay more than their Proportion of that Tax, will, by this Method, receive the Benefit of raising more than their Proportion of Volunteers, and every poor Labourer, and Manufacturer who inlists, receiving 45 s. *per Ann.* will be enabled thereby the better to maintain himself, and his Family, without Charge to his Parish.

Upon this Consideration I would further propose.

26. That no hired Servant to any Gentleman, or Farmer, or others, shall be inlisted; and that if any Volunteer shall, after inlisting, go into the Service of any Gentleman, or Farmer, or others, as a hired Servant, he shall be dismissed, and another Volunteer shall be inlisted in his Place.

27. And

27. And that the Deputy Lieutenants do, as equally as they can, with the Advice of some of the principal Inhabitants, inlist Men proper for this Service, out of all the Parishes in their respective Counties, so that every Parish, as near as possible, may receive the Benefit arising thereby.

And lastly, that Preference be given to disbanded Soldiers of good Behaviour, who are not Out-Pensioners of *Chelsea College*, or otherwise provided for by the Government.

It is before observed, and the Author is not insensible it is urged by many, that a Militia is incompatible with the Politie, and Interest of a free, and trading Nation, by endangering Publick Freedom, and diverting the Attention of the Artificer, and Labourer from Manufacture, and Tillage: This Objection has its Weight: But by the Plan here laid down, every Inconvenience of this Kind is removed, the Politie and
Good

Good Government of the Nation can be no way interrupted, the Volunteer may follow his Occupation with small Lett or Hindrance, and at the same Time be a good Subject, and ready on every Occasion, to serve his Country on the earliest Call.

If it be objected, that these Volunteers cannot be of much Use, for want of learning their Exercise, &c. The Subalterns, Serjeants, &c. to be appointed by his Majesty, upon any Emergency, would soon instruct them in the Use of Arms; or stated Times and Places may be appointed for that purpose, in Bodies, or small Parties, at the Discretion of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, or the Deputies.

Farther, if it be objected that they cannot be ready for immediate Service, upon an Emergency, for want of being provided with an Uniform of Cloaths and Arms. It is apprehended that Arms, and Cloaths too, may be provided and sent to the Place of Rendezvous in the several Counties, as soon as the Volunteers can march, after

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receiving

receiving their Summons, &c. from the respective Lord Lieutenants; and if Cloaths and Arms were to be kept always in readiness, in the several Counties, the Expence of Store-houses, Store-keepers, under Store-keepers, &c. cannot easily be computed, and may in Time be made to serve some sinister Purpose, and encreased to a great Sum.

Many other Considerations offer in Support of this Plan, which are needless to mention at present; and it is presumed a Militia thus established, is most agreeable to the Constitution of this Kingdom, free from every National Inconvenience, will no ways disturb the Industry of the Poor, nor render precarious the State of the Rich: therefore I shall conclude with observing only, that this Scheme may at all times be readily put in Execution, but a Time of Peace is without doubt the most eligible; Men will readily enlist themselves, while they have a Prospect of receiving 45 s. *per Ann.* for no other Duty, than that of attending the Muster twice in the Year, or
other

other extraordinary Summons; and so great Security to our Peace and Happiness may from hence arise, that most probably they will never be wanted to do any other Duty.

With this View,

This Scheme is humbly offered to the Consideration of the Publick.

And now I cannot lay down my Pen without a Wish, that a general Reformation of Manners was also to take Place in this Kingdom, that the Nobility and Gentry would devote some Part of that Time, so lavishly spent at *Newmarket*, and *Whites*, to the Service of their King and Country: That Corruption be done away, and Private Interest yield to Publick Good: A Reformation thus begun, would soon establish this Nation in Peace and Honour, frustrate every Attempt to disturb our National Happiness, by Rebellion at Home, or Invasion from Abroad: And by such Conduct, every Subject would best shew his

Allegiance to his Majesty, and his Love
to his Country.

POSTSCRIPT.

HAVING in the foregoing Scheme mentioned the known Inequality of the Land-Tax, I hope I shall be excused in an attempt to state the Burthen upon great Part of the Lands in *England* (particularly with regard to the Creditors of the Government) in an equitable Light, and as exactly as is necessary.

Supposing therefore that the Interest of the Debts of the Nation amount to 3,000,000 *l*.

And that the Rents of the Lands in *England* are 15,000,000 *l*.

And

And that each 1000 *l. per Ann.* in Land, or in Funds, contributes by the Consumption of the Proprietor 140 *l. per Ann.* towards the Payment of the said Interest; the Proprietors then of Lands and Stocks pay by their Consumption 2,520,000 *l.* of the 3,000,000 *l.* The Remainder of the Interest, *viz.* 480,000 *l.* and Expences of Collection I suppose to be paid by the Consumption of Traders, who are not Proprietors of Stocks and Lands, and by all others, even the poorest Families in *England*. Thus far then the landed Man pays equally (and therefore chearfully) with the moneyed Man, towards the Support of the Government. But supposing the landed Man to pay a Land-Tax of but 2 *s.* 10 *d.* in the Pound, at a 4 *s.* Tax, which is the least I can suppose the Medium to be in all the Counties, except in the North and West, the landed Man of 1000 *l. per Ann.* pays above 140 *l. per Ann.* to the Land-Tax: By which it appears that the moneyed Men, by their Consumption, pay their Share of the Interest of 75,000,000 *l.* and the landed
Men

Men by the Land-Tax, and by their Consumption, pay their Share of the Interest of above 150,000,000*l.* But since the landed Men make about 3*l. per Cent.* of their Money, and the Creditors of the Government, (I mean those who are Proprietors of the 4*l. per Cent.* Stocks) make but 4*l. per Cent.* of their Money; if the Interest of the 4*l. per Cents.* was reduced to 3*l. per Cent.* the landed Men would have too much Advantage, whenever the Land-Tax shall be but 2*s.* in the Pound, which they have Reason to expect will be soon, considering how many Years they may have been thus unequally burthened.

Supposing therefore that the Land-Tax be abated to 2*s.* and that the Interest of all the 4*l. per Cents.* be reduced 1 *per Cent.* and that there be a further proportionable Reduction of the Interest of all the 4*l. per Cents.* whenever the Necessities of the Government shall require an Encrease of the Land-Tax; and only during such Encrease, neither the landed Men, nor the Creditors of the Government, could have any Reason

son to complain of being taxed unequally; and all future Jealousy of their having different Views or Interests with regard to War and Peace, would be entirely prevented.

This is to be observed, that if ever the Interest of the *4 l. per Cents.* is to be reduced, it ought to be done now, while those Stocks are at Par, and before the Proprietors, themselves, by raising the Premium, reduce their Interest, as they did before the War, to *3 : per Cent:*

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